

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## For Immediate Release:

Baltimore County Man Sentenced to 50 years for Fatal Stabbing at Columbia Convenience Store

Howard County, MD (May 20, 2019) – Damien Gary Clark, age 43, was sentenced to a total of 50 years in prison for the fatal stabbing of a Columbia man and the non-fatal stabbing of his friend on Christmas night in 2017. In February of 2019, Clark was convicted of voluntary manslaughter, attempted second-degree murder and two counts of second-degree assault.

At approximately 9:40pm on December 25, 2017, Howard County Police arrived at the Quick Stop Food Mart on Hickory Ridge Road in Columbia after receiving a call regarding a fight and stabbing at the store. Upon arrival, officers met Warner Donnell Jackson and James Donte Fallin, Jr., both of whom were suffering from multiple stab wounds. Both Jackson and Fallin were transported to the University of Maryland's Shock Trauma Center. Jackson was treated for his injuries and released. Fallin died from his stab wounds later that evening.

An investigation revealed Clark entered the convenience store with his wife Christmas evening in 2017. Shortly thereafter, a fight ensued between Clark and Jackson. Fallin, who was nearby, joined in the fight. At some point during the fight, Clark pulled out a knife and began stabbing both Jackson and Fallin. Jackson was stabbed once in the upper left side of his back. Fallin suffered from two stab wounds; one in the left chest, one in the center of his chest near the sternum and collapsed in the parking lot.

Howard County Circuit Court Judge Timothy J. McCrone presided over the case. Assistant State Attorneys' Natasha Byus and Doug Nelsen prosecuted the case.